

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL MEMORANDUM**

**HB 468 – SB 454**

March 14, 2017

**SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL:** Requires the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) to be reimbursed for lost revenue for issuing a free or partially discounted combination hunting and fishing license on or after January 1, 2017, including licenses issued to persons exempt from licensing requirements. Requires TWRA to maintain accounting records of lost revenue and to submit such accounting to the Department of Finance and Administration (F&A) for reimbursement from the General Fund on or before June 30 each fiscal year. Requires F&A to pay such revenue into the Wildlife Resources Fund within 30 days of receipt. Requires TWRA accounting to be subject to audit by the Comptroller of the Treasury (COT).

**FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:**

Increase State Revenue –

\$2,236,600/FY16-17/Wildlife Resources Fund

\$5,131,300/FY17-18 and Subsequent Years/Wildlife Resources Fund

Increase State Expenditures –

\$2,236,600/FY16-17/General Fund

\$5,131,300/FY17-18 and Subsequent Years/General Fund

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (004835):** Deletes and rewrites the bill such that the only substantive changes are to: establish that the TWRA reimbursement requirement applies only to those discounted licenses or license exemptions that were created by statute on or after January 1, 2017; and establish that any reimbursement to TWRA for lost revenue shall be made from the General Fund in the annual general appropriations act.

**FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:**

**Other Fiscal Impact –** A potential increase in state revenue to the Wildlife Resources Fund and a potential equivalent increase in state expenditures from the General Fund. Due to multiple unknown variables, the magnitude or timing of any such impacts cannot be determined with reasonable certainty.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- The proposed bill as amended requires reimbursement for lost revenue associated with the issuance of free or partially discounted licenses which were created by statute on or after January 1, 2017, as well as lost revenue resulting from the issuance of licenses exempting persons from the licensure requirements on or after January 1, 2017.
- It is assumed that there have been no statutes created to issue free or partially discounted licenses or any exemptions for any licensure requirements since January 1, 2017.
- To the extent that any future license discounts or exemptions are enacted into law, there will be an increase in state revenue to the Wildlife Resources Fund and an equivalent increase in state expenditures from the General Fund. Due to multiple unknown variables, such as the magnitude or timing of any license discounts or exemptions, the types of licenses affected by such discounts or exemptions, the fees that would be charged under current law for such licenses, and the number of persons that would purchase such licenses under current law, any such impacts cannot be quantified with reasonable certainty.
- TWRA is currently audited by the COT; therefore, any fiscal impact is estimated to be not significant.

## **CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

/tdb